

You? Show us what justice and kindness mean in a broken and troubled world, where hunger, violence, and oppression are so pervasive. Teach us what it means to be humble in a world where we take ourselves too seriously and where wisdom and truth are often scorned.

You gave these men and women such noble intentions when they first took the oath of office. Put it into their hearts to be more than good Republicans and good Democrats, O Lord. Let them be lovers of justice and peace. Do not let them become weary in well doing. Renew their strength when they labor long hours. Lift their hearts when they are discouraged. When their vision fails, keep before them the ideals that have made us a great Nation. Let them be faithful and steadfast in all their labors, that Your benediction may rest upon them all. We pray in the name of all that is holy. Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. ETHERIDGE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. ETHERIDGE led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed with amendment in which the concurrence of the House is requested, bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 4818. An act making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate insists upon its amendment to the bill (H.R. 4818) "An act making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes," requests a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and appoints Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. GREGG, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. BOND, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. INOUE, Mr. HARKIN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. JOHNSON, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. BYRD, to be the conferees on the part of the Senate.

H.R. 4850. An act making appropriations for the government of the District of Colum-

bia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against the revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate insists upon its amendment to the bill (H.R. 4850) "An act making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against the revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes," requests a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and appoints Mr. DEWINE, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. STEVENS, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. INOUE, to be the conferees on the part of the Senate.

#### WELCOMING THE REV. THOMAS K. SPENCE, JR.

(Mr. ETHERIDGE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great pride to introduce and present to this august body the Reverend Thomas Spence as today's Guest Chaplain in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Reverend Spence is the pastor of Leaflet Presbyterian Church, my home church in Broadway, North Carolina; and I am honored he has been with us today in the people's House. Reverend Spence possesses rare eloquence; and as a long-time congregant and friend, I can tell Members he is a unique individual whose interest and activism stretches far more broadly than his congregation. He has truly lived a life according to Jesus' example to tend to the least among us.

Like me, Reverend Spence grew up on a farm in rural North Carolina, he in Harnett County; and I grew up in the adjacent county of Johnston. The life lessons one learns growing up on a working farm shape your world view and instill what we refer to as good North Carolina values of hard work, faith in God, love of family and friends, and devotion to duty to those around us and to our world as a whole. Reverend Spence has lived North Carolina values every day of his life and has served the people of his congregation with great distinction and accomplishment. I am pleased, proud, and honored to introduce North Carolina's own Reverend Thomas Spence to the House.

#### BIDDING FAREWELL TO AMBASSADOR JAZAIRY

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to share with my colleagues that Ambassador Idriss Jazairi of Algeria will be leaving us soon at the end of a very successful tour of duty in the United States.

It has been a privilege working with this gentleman as Algeria's ambassador to the United States for the past 4 years. His eloquent professionalism, great confidence, and his deep care for his family and country have all been reflected in his life and service here.

Ambassador Jazairi is a true diplomat. He builds bridges and facilitates reconciliation. He has been an eloquent spokesman for his country and the causes of peace and goodwill in the world. He, indeed, is what one would call a peacemaker. He represents his nation's interests with great dignity and has been a wonderful man to work with and call a friend. We will miss him.

Mr. Speaker, I wish the ambassador the very best as he begins his new tour of duty in Geneva as an ambassador to the United Nations, and hope our paths will cross soon.

#### REMEMBERING NEW MEXICO'S WAR DEAD

(Mr. UDALL of New Mexico asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the men from New Mexico who have died in Iraq. Five New Mexicans and more than 1,000 American military servicemen and -women have made the supreme sacrifice for their Nation on the battlefields of Iraq.

The five are Lance Corporal Christopher Ramos of Albuquerque; Sergeant Moses Rocha of Roswell; Sergeant Lee Duane Todacheene of Farmington; Specialist James H. Pirtle of La Mesa; and Sergeant Tommy L. Gray of Roswell. All five have been part of the ultimate sacrifice.

No words can ever express adequately the gratitude and reverence that Americans feel for these men. Nor can we ever repay the debt incurred to them and their families, whose anguish can only inadequately be tempered by a grateful Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering that five New Mexicans and more than 1,000 fellow Americans stood and fell for all of us. My prayers go out to the families of these fallen heroes, and I hope they know this country honors their sacrifices and recognizes their passing.

#### APPLAUDING CONGRESSIONAL CONFERENCE ON CIVIC EDUCATION

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, it is vitally important that our children have an understanding of the fundamental principles and values of our constitutional democracy.

Last September, the first annual Congressional Conference on Civic Education was held. The conference was